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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
372nd MEETING
26 APRIL 2013
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM(CCCLXXII)

COMMUNIQUE

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The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 372nd meeting held on 26 April 2013, adopted the following decision on the situation in Guinea-Bissau:

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the briefing made by the Commission on the situation in Guinea-Bissau. Council **also takes note** of the statements made by Mozambique, in its capacity as the Chair of the Community of Portuguese Language Speaking Countries (CPLP) and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), as well as by the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU);
2. **Recalls** its previous decisions on the situation in Guinea-Bissau and the need for continued and sustained engagement by the Bissau-Guinean stakeholders to advance the transition process. Council calls for the speedy finalization of the process of the adoption of the Roadmap for Transition, the " Regime Pact " and formation of an inclusive government;
3. **Expresses deep concern** over the problem of drug trafficking and the alleged involvement of the military Chief of Staff and other civilian and military authorities in this illegal activity. In this regard, Council **urges** the Guinea-Bissau authorities and the international community to resolutely engage in the fight against drug trafficking, and to take immediate and effective measures against all persons, military or civilian, involved in the trafficking;
4. **Condemns** the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of Guinea-Bissau, particularly its fisheries, which is harmful to the economy and the wellbeing of the people of this country. In this regard, Council **also strongly condemns** the reported case of the impaired boat caught by the Bissau-Guinean services in the waters of Guinea-Bissau, whose captain was alleged to be Polish and the crew to be Portuguese. In this context, Council **calls on** the EU, in accordance with the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the EU and Guinea-Bissau, which came to an end on 15 June 2012, to carry out an investigation into this incident and provide it with information;
5. **Acknowledges** the important role that ECOWAS is playing in the management and resolution of the crisis in Guinea-Bissau and **appeals** to AU Member States and the international community, in coordination with ECOWAS, to provide the necessary assistance to the ECOWAS Mission in Guinea-Bissau (ECOMIB) to enable it to effectively carry out its mandate;
6. **Calls on** Member States and international partners to assist Guinea-Bissau in the resolution of its multifaceted problems, including the organization of general elections scheduled to take place before the end of 2013;
7. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

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